

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

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**1. Name of Property**

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historic name Henry Street Historic District  
other names/site number VDHR #128-5764

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**2. Location**

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street & number 100 block of Henry Street, NW not for publication  
city or town Roanoke vicinity  
state Virginia code VA county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ Zip 24016

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**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_ statewide X locally. ( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
**Virginia Department of Historic Resources**  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_\_\_ entered in the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the  
National Register

\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

**U. S. Department of the Interior  
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**Henry Street Historic District  
Roanoke, VA**

## 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private  
☒ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property** (Check only one box)

\_\_\_\_\_ building(s)  
  X   district  
 \_\_\_\_\_ site  
 \_\_\_\_\_ structure  
 \_\_\_\_\_ object

### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**N/A**

## 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	<u>Domestic</u>	Sub:	<u>Hotel</u>
	<u>Commerce</u>		<u>Specialty Store</u>
	<u>Recreation/Culture</u>		<u>Theater</u>
	<u>Health Care</u>		<u>Medical business/office</u>
	<u>                    </u>		<u>                                </u>
	<u>                    </u>		<u>                                </u>
	<u>                    </u>		<u>                                </u>

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Work in Progress Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vacant \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description****Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century RevivalNo Style**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)foundation concreteroof asphaltwalls brick

other \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)**8. Statement of Significance****Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A   A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations** (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)Commerce/TradeEntertainment/RecreationHealth/MedicineEthnic Heritage: Black

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<b>Period of Significance</b>	1917 -1954
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### Significant Dates 1917

1923

1924-1925

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

### Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS)**

\_\_\_\_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

### Primary Location of Additional Data

X State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 1.15 acres

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

1 17 593780 4125700 2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 4

See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title: Alison S. Blanton

Organization: Hill Studio, PC date June 2004

street & number: 120 West Campbell Avenue telephone 540-342-5263

city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24011

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets****Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

1. name John Baker, Director, Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority

street & number P.O. Box 6359 telephone 540-983-9241

city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24017

2. name Ted Edlich, Director, Total Action Against Poverty

street & number 145 Campbell Avenue, SW telephone 540-345-6781

city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24011

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**7. Description:**

**Summary:**

The proposed Henry Street Historic District is located in the 100 block of First Street, N.W. in Roanoke, Virginia. Situated just north of the railroad tracks and west of the Norfolk & Western Railway Historic District and the Hotel Roanoke, Henry Street developed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century as the central business and entertainment district for the African-American neighborhood of Gainsboro in Northwest Roanoke. A narrow bridge extends across the railroad tracks to connect Henry Street with First Street SW and downtown Roanoke. The approximately one-acre district contains a total of 5 buildings with four contributing buildings ranging in date from 1917 to 1951 and one non-contributing building, which was constructed in 1962. The resources in the district, which are all that survive of a once thriving three-block commercial district around the intersection of First Street and Centre Avenue, include a movie theater, a hotel, a doctor's office and several small specialty stores. The theater and hotel are two and three stories in height, respectively, with Classical detailing in the cornices and corner quoins. The remaining buildings are one-story with simple storefronts and no detailing. All of the buildings are either of brick or concrete block with brick veneer. The buildings have been vacant for approximately twenty years with plans currently developing for their rehabilitation as a cultural arts center, museum and culinary arts institute.

***Inventory:***

1. 106-108 First Street	Hotel Dumas	1917	Contributing
2. 101-105 First Street	specialty stores	1951	Contributing
3. 107 First Street	specialty store	1962	Non-contributing
4. 109 First Street	The Strand Theatre	1923	Contributing
5. 31 Centre Avenue	Dr. Lylburn Downing office	1945ca	Contributing

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**7. Description (continued):**

*Detailed Description:*

The 100 block of Henry Street originally featured a number of commercial structures lining the street during its heyday in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Urban renewal in the area in the 1960s and 1970s dispersed much of the neighborhood population and signaled the decline of Henry Street as a commercial center for Gainsboro. Today, only five structures remain along this once vibrant intersection of First (Henry) Street and Centre Avenue. The two cornerstones of the district are the 1916-1917 Hotel Dumas and the 1923 Strand Theatre (Ebony Club). A row of one-story brick buildings dating to the 1950s and 1960s stand adjacent to the Strand Theatre and complete the district. Redevelopment in the area includes: the construction of a parking deck on a vacant lot at the southeast corner; the rehabilitation of the N&W General Office Building South as a condominium complex; the renovation of the N&W General Office Building North as the Higher Education Center; and the construction of an office building at the northwest corner on a vacant lot. In spite of this surrounding development, the proposed Henry Street Historic District retains its position as the primary link between the African-American neighborhood of Gainsboro and downtown Roanoke across the historic bridge as well as its close ties to the railroad tracks and the N&W complex directly to the east.

The Hotel Dumas at 108 First Street NW, constructed in 1916-1917 as the Hotel Hampton by the Central Manufacturing Company, stands as the oldest building in the district and stands on the site of the former Hotel Pierce. This three-story, three-bay brick building features a heavy, molded wood cornice below the stepped brick parapet; sets of three, one-over-one wood sash windows with a continuous concrete sill within each slightly recessed bay on the upper floors; and, a reconstructed wooden storefront with two recessed bays and a double-leaf entrance of single-light wood doors. The building originally consisted of 26 guest rooms as well as a cleaning and pressing service, a snack bar, an ice cream parlor, a dining room, two pool rooms, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor ballroom. The building was partially rehabilitated in 1992.

The Strand Theatre (Ebony Club) at 109 First Street NW was constructed in 1923 by local African-American businessmen Albert F. Brooks and C. Tiffany Tolliver. This two-story brick building features brick quoins that separate the three bays and a heavy cornice with modillions below the brick parapet. Brick soldier rows and stuccoed end blocks accent the window openings on the second story. The first story, which originally featured offices and retail spaces

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**7. Description (continued):**

flanking the entrance, has been boarded up. Although the front façade and some features of the interior (stage, balcony, wainscoting) survive, the building is in deteriorated condition with the roof missing. The building was listed on the Ten Most Endangered Sites by both the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation and the Preservation Alliance of Virginia in 2000.

The remaining buildings in the district are three one-story brick buildings to the south of the Strand Theatre and along Centre Avenue. The building at 101-105 First Street was constructed circa 1951 and contains four storefronts. The building is simple in design with a flat roof with concrete coping and frame storefronts with a single-leaf, single-light entrance. The one-story building at 31 Centre Avenue, Dr. Downing's office, was constructed ca. 1945 and features brick quoins at the corners similar to the Strand Theatre. The three-bay building has a central, single-leaf entrance with Colonial-revival door surround flanked by two fixed, multi-light windows (presently boarded). The only non-contributing structure is located at 107 First Street. Constructed circa 1962, this building is similar to the building at 101-105 First Street with its simple brick form, flat roof, and flush storefront with little detailing.

***Integrity Statement:***

In spite of surrounding redevelopment, the proposed Henry Street Historic District retains its position as the primary link between the African-American neighborhood of Gainsboro and downtown Roanoke across the historic First Street Bridge. The context of the railroad tracks and the N&W complex directly to the east as well as the residential neighborhood to the north and west also remains intact. While other commercial buildings that once stood along the south side of Centre Avenue and in the 200 block of First Street no longer survive, the 100 block of First (Henry) Street served as the anchor to the district and retains its integrity. Plans are currently underway to rehabilitate the Hotel Dumas as a music and cultural arts center and the buildings on the east side of the block (including the Strand Theatre and Dr. Downing's office on Centre Avenue) into a culinary arts institute. The rehabilitation will be done in accordance with the *Secretary of Interior's Standards* in order to receive state and federal tax credits.



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**8. Statement of Significance**

***Summary Statement of Significance:***

Henry Street, also known as First Street, served as the commercial and entertainment center of the African-American neighborhood of Gainsboro and Northwest Roanoke during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. With surviving resources that include the 1917 Hotel Dumas, the 1923 Strand Theatre (Ebony Club), the ca. 1945 Dr. Lylburn Downing office building, and several small specialty stores dating to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the Henry Street Historic District represents the relatively self-sufficient commercial center established by the African-American community in Roanoke during the days of Jim Crow segregation. The hotel and theater – the only such resources relating to African-Americans that survive — stand as reminders of Roanoke's participation in the Harlem Renaissance movement as they provided a venue and lodging for many of the famous black performers that characterized the era. In addition to these performers, Oscar Micheaux, one of the first African-American film producers and distributors, established an office in the Strand Theatre from 1924 to 1925 and filmed several movies in the neighborhood while making the Hotel Dumas his local residence. As the commercial and entertainment center of the African-American neighborhoods of Gainsboro and Northwest Roanoke, the Henry Street Historic District is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criteria A for local significance in the areas of commerce/trade, entertainment/recreation, health/medicine and black ethnic heritage for the period 1917 to 1954.

***Historical Background:***

Gainsboro was originally settled as a white residential neighborhood known as Old Lick prior to the coming of the Norfolk & Western Railway in the 1880s. After the completion of the N&W Railroad tracks, the town shifted south to its present location and was renamed Roanoke. During the period from 1890 to 1940, the Gainsboro neighborhood slowly transformed into an African-American community. Many of the area's blacks were skilled laborers so, they too, were able to take advantage of the opportunities the railroad offered. However, as elsewhere in the south, Roanoke was a town divided by racial segregation and as the town grew, two separate communities developed with their own neighborhoods and commercial and institutional centers.

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With the African-American population in Roanoke reaching its peak in 1900 at 27%, the development of the Gainsboro neighborhood and Henry Street grew rapidly over the next two decades and became a fully developed and self-sustaining African-American community. Unlike most black communities in the south, Gainsboro had the distinction of establishing its services and institutions, such as the Burrell Memorial Hospital and the Gainsboro Branch Library (Baratta: 1).

Henry Street was one of the first two areas to become populated by African-Americans with blacks residing in the blocks between Center and Loudon streets by 1890 (Baratta: 2). Gainsboro Road developed as the first commercial center of the black community with restaurants, a drug store, a doctor's office, and two insurance companies by 1900. At the turn of the century, much of the area around Henry Street and Centre Avenue contained residences and tenement houses – many of which were occupied by black workers at the Central Manufacturing Company, which owned much of the land and operated a large lumber yard between Shenandoah Avenue, Henry Street, Loudon Avenue and Fifth Street (Sanborn: 1893). The transition from residential to commercial could be marked by the Central Manufacturing Company's decision to construct the Hotel Hampton (Hotel Dumas) at the corner of Henry Street and Loudon Avenue in 1916-1917. This 26-room hotel also featured a dining room, a cleaning and pressing service, the Jack and Jill snack shop, a poolroom and a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor ballroom. The Central Manufacturing Company originally leased the hotel to James Hughes and T.C. Cooper, who then purchased the property in 1919 and changed the name to the Hotel Dumas. The hotel continued to operate from 1933 until 1976 under the ownership of the Barlow family, serving as accommodations for travelers and entertainers during the Jim Crow days of segregation and as a social gathering place for the local black community.

By the 1920s, Henry Street rivaled Gainsboro Road as the commercial, business and entertainment center for the community. Henry Street boasted two barbershops, a shoe repair shop, Tolbert and Day cleaning and pressing, a lunchroom, a cafeteria, the Hotel Hampton (Dumas), the Red Circle Hotel, the Richmond Beneficial Life Insurance Company, two billiard clubs, and the Ideal Athletic Club. In addition to High Street Baptist Church, the first block of Centre Avenue contained an automobile garage/service station, the Hampton Theatre, and the Brooks Building, which listed Cooper's Drug Store, the Hampton Theatre Corporation, the

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*Roanoke Observer*, the North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company and several doctors' offices as tenants. By 1925, the Strand Theatre had opened on Henry Street with the Oscar Micheaux Film Corporation and the Congo Film Company as well as the Palace Hotel (202 Henry Street), the Central Credit Union (14 Henry Street), Harth Brothers Recreation Center (115 Henry Street) and several new restaurants and retail stores.

The Henry Street area was referred to as "Little Church" for its similarities on a smaller scale to Norfolk's well known and thriving commercial and entertainment district along Church Street (Shareef: 153). The first black theater, the Boston Theatre, was located at 38 Centre Avenue in 1915. This became the Hampton Theatre in 1918, with A.J. Oliver and A.F. Brooks listed in a newspaper announcement as developers. The Hampton Theatre became known as the Virginia Theatre in the 1930s and operated into the 1960s before being demolished. The Strand Theatre was constructed at 109 Henry Street in 1922-1923 by Albert F. Brooks and C. Tiffany Tolliver, members of the same corporation that owned the Hampton Theatre. The original announcement of the theater's construction indicated that it would be named "The Dunbar" and would have a seating capacity of 1,000 with an estimated cost between \$15,00 and \$20,000 (*The Roanoke Times*, 8/11/1922). A later announcement of its opening in a Pittsburgh paper on September 3, 1922 referred to the theater as "The Strand" and reported that the "new theater has a capacity of 703 persons, is handsomely decorated and equipped with organ and modern projecting machines" (Barnett: files). After closing as a movie theater in 1933, the theater became a venue for some of the best-known jazz and rock-and-roll musicians of the time. The theater was subsequently known as the Lincoln, (1930s), the Morocco Club in the 1950s and the Ebony Club from the 1960s to the present. While playing at the theater or other locations in Roanoke, the majority of these great African-American jazz musicians and other entertainers stayed at the Hotel Dumas over the years, including Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Fats Waller, and Ethel Waters, Cab Calloway, Lionel Hampton, Fats Domino, Dizzy Gillespie and the Harlem Globetrotters. The influence of the theater/club can also be seen in the establishment of the Kaiser Music Store at 105 Henry Street in the late 1950s. After standing vacant for a number of years, the theater building was purchased by its present owner, the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority. The Ebony Club was listed on the Most Endangered Sites list by the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation and the Preservation Alliance of Virginia in 2000.

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The Strand Theatre played another significant role in black history as the location of Oscar Micheaux's film company between 1924 and 1925. Micheaux was one of the nation's first black filmmakers with his own film production and distribution company. Micheaux began his career as a film writer, producer and distributor in 1919 with the debut of his first film "The Homesteader." In 1921, Micheaux made his first trip to Roanoke and began making films on location in the neighborhood in 1922. He operated the Oscar Micheaux Film Corporation out of the Strand Theater from 1924 until 1925. Local investors in the film company included Albert F. Brooks, C. Tiffany Tolliver, W.B.F. Crowell, J.T. Hughes, W.B. Hunter, and The Pentecost family (Barnett and Kern). During the period 1922-1925, he made a total of eight films using nationally known as well as local actors and settings from the Gainsboro neighborhood (Barnett and Kern; Preservation Alliance of Virginia: 13). After leaving Roanoke for New York, he went on to make approximately 35 films that provided non-stereotypical portrayals of African-American life before his career ended in 1948. Micheaux has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and the Producers Guild of American Film has honored him with an award in his name.

Henry Street also played a role in the development of the medical profession and healthcare within the black community. By 1913, there were ten black doctors in Roanoke, none of whom had surgical privileges in the local white hospitals (Shareef: 47). In 1914, three of Roanoke's black doctors – Dr. Lylburn C. Downing, Dr. S. F. Williman, and Dr. James H. Roberts – who had performed the first recorded major surgical operation by black doctors in southwestern Virginia on November 5, 1913 - decided that it was time for a change. They met at the home of the prominent black physician Dr. Issac David Burrell to discuss developing a hospital. Their first efforts resulted in the development, in 1914, of the Medley Hospital, which was nothing more than a two-room rented flat owned by Dr. Samuel Medley on Henry Street. The 1915 City Directory lists Dr. Medley at 102 Henry Street along with the Gaylord & Miller Drug Company.

The hospital facility soon grew to 12 beds, taking over the entire house and displacing the Medley family. To accommodate the ever-burgeoning need, the doctors soon bought a wooden, two-story house at 311 Henry Street, which they renovated and donated to the newly formed Burrell Memorial Hospital Association. The hospital was to be run as a not-for-profit institution for the care of the black community, and it opened on March 18, 1915 (Hart 122). The charter for the hospital listed the Women's Auxiliary and Drs. John. B. Claytor (Sr.), Jerry S. Cooper, S.F. Williman, Lylburn C. Downing, and James H. Roberts, as supporters (Baratta: 7). Drs. Cooper, Williman, and Downing all had offices in the area of Henry Street and Centre Avenue. Dr.

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Lylburn C. Downing, who had been the first African-American physician accepted as a member of the Roanoke Medical Society (Hart:122), became the first superintendent of the Hospital. He remained the only superintendent at the Burrell Memorial Hospital until 1947 (Shareef: 49). After the flu epidemic of 1919, the need for an expanded hospital facility for African Americans was recognized and the Roanoke City Council approved the lease of the abandoned Allegheny Institute on McDowell Street to the Burrell Memorial Hospital Association.

The medical community on Henry Street, however, did not leave with the hospital. By the 1940s and 1950s a number of black doctors and dentists had their offices on either Henry Street or Centre Avenue. Medical offices included the ca. 1915 Brooks Building, the ca. 1945 Dr. Lylburn Downing office (31 Centre Avenue) and the ca. 1950 Allied Arts Building (38 Centre Avenue) with offices for a number of dentists and doctors, including: Dr. Ellwood D. Downing and Dr. Harry T. Penn.

Life insurance companies, including Richmond Beneficial and Universal, also had a presence at 40 Centre Avenue from the 1950s through the 1970s. Other enterprises that illustrated the prominence of Henry Street within the black community and its self-sufficiency were located in the area. Oliver White Hill, the NAACP attorney for the Virginia case consolidated into the Brown v. Board of Education decision, practiced law in the Brooks Building in the 1930s. Also in the late 1930s, the Strand Theatre (then known as the Lincoln Theatre) served as the site of the N&W Veterans Association Colored Division Convention. Other facilities included the Veterans of Foreign Wars Building at 208 Henry Street in 1935, St. Gerard's Catholic Information Center and Reading Room at 29 Centre Avenue in 1950, the Booker T. Washington Memorial Trade School at 26-30 Centre Avenue in 1952-1963.

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10. **Geographical Data**

***Verbal Boundary Description:***

The boundary of the Henry Street Historic District are shown as tax parcels 2013012 (LOT 1 BLK 9 SEC NW1 OS), 2013504 (LOT A-1 CENTRAL MFG CORP), and 2013506 (NEW TRACT B MRS NEAL) as outlined on the accompanying City of Roanoke tax map.

***Boundary Justification:***

The boundary of the district represents the properties that survive along First Street and Centre Avenue that are associated with the commercial and entertainment center of the African-American community of Gainsboro in Roanoke, Virginia from the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.



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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Henry Street Historic District  
Roanoke, VA

Section Photographs Page 12

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All photographs are of:

Property Name: Henry Street Historic District  
Location: 100 Block First Street, NW  
Roanoke, Virginia  
VDHR File #: 128-5764  
Photographer: Alison S. Blanton  
Date: January 2004  
Negative #: 21335

1. View looking north across railroad tracks from Norfolk Avenue
2. 100 block of First (Henry) Street, looking NE from Centre Avenue
3. Hotel Dumas, 108 First (Henry) Street, looking SW
4. 100 block of First (Henry) Street, east side, looking SE
5. The Strand Theatre, 109 First (Henry) Street, looking NE
6. 101-107 First (Henry) Street, looking NE
7. 100 block of First (Henry) Street, east side, looking NE
8. Dr. Downing's Office, 31 Centre Avenue, looking North
9. 100 block of First (Henry) Street, looking South

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**Henry Street Historic District  
Roanoke, VA**

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City of Roanoke  
215 Church Street  
Room 250  
Roanoke, VA 24011

Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority  
PO Box 6359  
Roanoke, VA 24017

Central Investors  
PO Box 20809  
Roanoke, VA 24018